

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] Fig. 21 illustrates the assembly of OSA 306 and an FO connector 307 in one embodiment of the invention. FO connector 307 can ~~[[by]]~~ be an LC connector, a SC connector, a ST connector, a FC connector, or other similar FO connectors. Alignment post 304 on a fully aligned OSA 306 is inserted into one end of a sleeve 308 made from plastic, metal or ceramic. This subassembly of OSA 306 and sleeve 308 forms part of a fiber optic module that would mate with a fiber optic cable, such as a fiber 312 in FO connector 307, supplied by the user. A ceramic ferrule 310 carrying fiber 312 is inserted in another end of sleeve 308. Sleeve 308 is made with the proper inner diameter (ID) to accept the outer diameter (OD) of alignment post 304 and ferrule 310. The insertion of the OSA 306 into sleeve 308 would be entirely passive, and therefore a low cost operation.

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] It is important to note that although alignment post 304 may look similar to port 224 (Fig. 18) on conventional OSA 212 (Fig. 18), it is fundamentally different because the alignment feature on alignment post 304 is the ~~outer diameter (OD)~~ OD and the alignment feature on port 224 is the ~~inner diameter (ID)~~ ID. Referring to Fig. 17, the ID of port 224 is normally a few microns larger than the OD of the mating ferrule 216. Port 224 may have a 1.255 mm ID to mate with a 1.249 mm OD of ferrule 216. Referring to Fig. 21, alignment post 304 has the same or similar OD (e.g., 1.25 mm) as ferrule 310. The optical distance from lens 311 of OECE 302 to fiber 312 would be set by the length of alignment post 304. The hole in the center of alignment post 304 is not used for alignment but only to allow light 316 to pass through. Thus, the size of the hole is not critical. The dimensions in the above description are typical for launching light into multi-mode fibers. The concepts described is also applicable to OSAs for launch into single-mode fibers but the tolerances required for single-mode fibers may be tighter than those required for multi-mode launch.